



Wow! We have just completed our six weeks together... getting to know each other and what makes each one of us special.

Our pre-k community is growing. Two new friends have joined us! Let's welcome Levi Patterson-Saunders and Shepherd Rogers and their families into our pre-k-licious class! The week after fall break we will be joined by another family!

What's been happening?

**In the woods:** Since we roasted marshmallows by the campsite, the focus has now shifted to something else. Did you know there's a big demand for roly-poly bugs and centipedes in the market? Our munchkins have been fascinated by these bugs. For some reason they just bring out the kids' curiosity. Before, they used to ask me to help them find the bugs, but now they know exactly where to find them. They will look under logs, move rocks and peel tree bark searching for them.

So, I said to myself, if this is what the focus is right now, then that's what we will focus on. After all Reggio is a child-led curriculum. We will revisit the campsite when they are ready again.

When we get back from our break we will explore these little creatures: What type of bugs they are ... which ones are safe to touch and handle. We will explore their life cycle and ecology. In other words, we will open a whole can of centipedes and roly-polys. 😊

**Science:** We have been exploring our five senses. Children make sense of their world by hearing, touching, seeing, tasting and smelling.

We talked about how each of their senses work together by sending information to the brain to help them understand what's around them.

They also learnt that they're people who are not able to see and are known as blind. And some people who cannot hear, they are known as deaf. Blind people have special books they read by touching and they use special dogs or sticks to guide them when walking. Deaf people use sign language, talking by using hands.

For children to better understand how their senses work and how they're connected, we cook, bake and try new fruit or vegetables with them. We have baked chocolate chip cookies, banana bread and muffins. We baked pizza and tasted a papaya! Some friends don't like the taste of certain things, like the papaya, but they tried it anyway. Carly said, "I will just keep cutting instead of eating!" Micah, on the other hand, kept licking tomato paste spoon and said, "I like spicy stuff and that's spicy!" 😊

When we're cooking with kids not only are they developing basic math skills by counting and measuring, they are also learning to try new foods and tastes.

So, please invite them in your kitchens to help cut those vegetables or mix your morning smoothies with you! Engaging their little hands help to build their fine motor skills. It also helps them to learn how to do more things by themselves, such as writing their names and putting on their shoes.

**Music:** children are learning by listening and dancing to different songs. Ms. Julie has all kinds of cool instruments. Sometimes she prefers to use recycled materials to make music with the kids. They play and listen to the sounds each makes. She will ask them questions like "does it make a loud or soft noise?" Music helps kids become more active listeners and boosts their self-esteem. So, let them make louds noises at home to annoy the neighbors!

**Note:** Parent teacher conferences will be scheduled in November. Sign-up slots will be posted on Bloomz later.

**On the funny side:** Micah asked, "Why do we have fire drills if we can't have fire at school?" 😊

**Come Play, Learn and be Loved at SAND Pre-K!**